

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A media distribution apparatus, comprising:

a storer that stores views of that are original media of content, and metadata for explaining the views, the metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing viewpoint information and time information, the viewpoint information and the time information being both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, the viewpoint information comprising a keyword included in the metadata explaining the content;

a request receiver that receives, from a client, a preview distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, the viewpoint information comprising the keyword included in the metadata explaining the content, and desired time information that is input by the client, the identification information and the viewpoint information being both selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information, and the viewpoint information of the content, and as well as playback time information of the content;

a media extractor/generator that extracts, after the preview distribution request is received by the request receiver, from the metadata, a plurality of segments for making up a preview that is a summary and adapted to the viewpoint information included in the received preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the received preview distribution request, and dynamically generates the preview having a time length corresponding to the desired time

information included in the received preview distribution request, by combining the views stored in the storer corresponding to at least one ~~some~~ of the extracted plurality of segments so as to have ~~[[a]]~~ the time length corresponding to the desired time information ~~included in the preview distribution request~~, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments; and

a media transmitter that transmits the generated preview to the client.

41. (Currently Amended) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein a plurality of sets of the viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information, both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, are assigned to the metadata.

42. (Currently Amended) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a charger that does not ~~charge perform charging~~ for the preview or ~~charges performs charging~~ according to a length of the generated preview.

43. (Currently Amended) A media distribution method, comprising:  
storing views of that are original media of content, and metadata for explaining the views, the metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing viewpoint information and time information, the viewpoint information and the time information being both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, the viewpoint information comprising a keyword included in the metadata explaining the content;

receiving, from a client, a preview distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, viewpoint information comprising the keyword included in the metadata explaining the content, and desired time information that is input

by the client, the identification information and the viewpoint information being both selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information, ~~and the viewpoint information of the content,~~ and as well as playback time information of the content;

extracting, after the preview distribution request is received from the client, from the metadata, a plurality of segments ~~for making up a preview that is a summary and adapted to the viewpoint information included in the~~ received preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the received preview distribution request, and dynamically generating the preview having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the received preview distribution request, by combining the views stored in the storer corresponding to at least one ~~some of the extracted plurality of segments so as to have [[a]] the time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the preview distribution request,~~ using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments; and transmitting the generated preview to the client.

44. (Currently Amended) The media distribution method according to claim 43, wherein a plurality of sets of the viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information, both assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, are assigned to the metadata.

45. (Currently Amended) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising ~~performing no not~~ charging for the generated preview or ~~performing~~ charging according to a length of the generated preview.

46. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40,

wherein viewpoint options are displayed to a user prior to generating the preview.

47. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising displaying viewpoint options to a user prior to generating the preview.

48. (New) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a request analyzer that determines whether a distribution request received from the client is a media distribution request or the preview distribution request for the content.

49. (New) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the storer stores a plurality of metadata for a content.

50. (New) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the generated preview is cached according to a frequency of access to a corresponding content.

51. (New) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising determining whether a distribution request received from the client is a media distribution request or the preview distribution request for the content.

52. (New) The media distribution method according to claim 43, wherein a plurality of metadata are stored for a content.

53. (New) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising caching the generated preview according to a frequency of access to a corresponding content.

54. (New) A media distribution apparatus, comprising:

a server that includes views of original media content and metadata for explaining the views, the metadata comprising a plurality of segments, each segment comprising viewpoint information and time information, the viewpoint information being a keyword included in the metadata that explains the views;

wherein the server receives, from a client, a preview distribution request comprising content identification information, at least one keyword, and a time period set by the client for a preview to be generated by the server,

wherein the content identification information and the at least one keyword are selected by the client from list information distributed in advance, and

wherein the server extracts, after receiving the preview distribution request, from the metadata, segments having viewpoint information corresponding to the at least one keyword selected by the client, generates the preview having the set time period by linking the views corresponding to at least one of the extracted segments using the time information, and transmits the generated preview to the client.